

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JOSE CHAVEZ, G-02981,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff(s),	)	No. C 13-1437 CRB (PR)
	)	
v.	)	ORDER OF SERVICE
	)	
MATTHEW CATE, et al.,	)	(Docket #2 & 3)
	)	
Defendant(s).	)	
	)	

Plaintiff, a prisoner at Salinas Valley State Prison (SVSP), has filed a pro se complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 alleging denial of adequate medical treatment for a broken/fractured nose for more than fifteen months. Plaintiff seeks injunctive and monetary relief, as well as a preliminary injunction and appointment of counsel.

### DISCUSSION

#### A. Standard of Review

Federal courts must engage in a preliminary screening of cases in which prisoners seek redress from a governmental entity or officer or employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The court must identify cognizable claims or dismiss the complaint, or any portion of the complaint, if the complaint “is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted,” or “seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief.” Id. § 1915A(b). Pro se pleadings must be liberally construed, however. Balistreri v. Pacifica Police Dep’t, 901 F.2d 696, 699 (9th Cir. 1990).

1 To state a claim under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, a plaintiff must allege two  
2 essential elements: (1) that a right secured by the Constitution or laws of the  
3 United States was violated, and (2) that the alleged violation was committed by a  
4 person acting under the color of state law. West v. Atkins, 487 U.S. 42, 48  
5 (1988).

6 B. Legal Claims

7 Deliberate indifference to serious medical needs violates the Eighth  
8 Amendment's proscription against cruel and unusual punishment. See Estelle v.  
9 Gamble, 429 U.S. 97, 104 (1976). Such indifference may appear when prison  
10 officials deny, delay or intentionally interfere with medical treatment, or it may  
11 be shown in the way in which prison officials provide medical care. See  
12 McGuckin v. Smith, 974 F.2d 1050, 1062 (9th Cir. 1992) (delay of seven months  
13 in providing medical care during which medical condition was left virtually  
14 untreated and plaintiff was forced to endure "unnecessary pain" sufficient to  
15 present colorable § 1983 claim), overruled on other grounds, WMX  
16 Technologies, Inc. v. Miller, 104 F.3d 1133, 1136 (9th Cir. 1997) (en banc).

17 Liberally construed, plaintiff's allegations of denial of adequate medical  
18 treatment for a broken/fractured nose for more than fifteen months present an  
19 arguably cognizable claim for deliberate indifference to serious medical needs  
20 under § 1983 and will be served on the following named defendants – SVSP  
21 Warden R. Grounds, Health Care Appeals Coordinator F. Mejia, doctors Eric  
22 Bridgnell, Fernando Tuvera and Sullivan, nurse M. Ku and Valley Radiology  
23 Medical Associates Doctor E. Schneider. See id.

24 Former Secretary of Corrections and Rehabilitation Matthew Cate and  
25 former SVSP Warden Anthony Hedgpeth are dismissed because they are named  
26 on the theory that they are liable for the actions of their former subordinates and  
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1 it is well established that there is no § 1983 liability under such a theory, i.e., a  
 2 theory of respondeat superior liability. See Taylor v. List, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045  
 3 (9th Cir. 1989) (under no circumstances is there liability under § 1983 solely  
 4 because one is responsible for the actions or omissions of another).<sup>1</sup>

5 C. Motion for Preliminary Injunction

6 Plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction (docket #2) is DENIED for  
 7 failure to satisfying the notice requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
 8 65. Prior to granting a preliminary injunction, notice to the adverse party is  
 9 required. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(a)(1). A motion for preliminary injunction therefore  
 10 cannot be decided until the parties to the action are served, and they have not yet  
 11 been served here. See Zepeda v. INS, 753 F.2d 719, 727 (9th Cir. 1983). A  
 12 temporary restraining order (TRO) may be granted without written or oral notice  
 13 to the adverse party or that party's attorney if: (1) it clearly appears from specific  
 14 facts shown by affidavit or by the verified complaint that immediate and  
 15 irreparable injury, loss or damage will result to the applicant before the adverse  
 16 party or the party's attorney can be heard in opposition, and (2) the applicant's  
 17 attorney (plaintiff himself in this case, as he proceeds pro se) certifies in writing  
 18 the efforts, if any, which have been made to give notice and the reasons  
 19 supporting the claim that notice should not be required. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b).  
 20 Plaintiff has not satisfied both requirements.

21 D. Motion for Appointment of Counsel

22 Plaintiff's motion for appointment of counsel (docket #3) is DENIED for  
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24 <sup>1</sup>Plaintiff cannot proceed against a Doe defendant unless he first identifies  
 25 the Doe defendant and amends his complaint to add him as a named defendant.  
 26 Plaintiff will be afforded 60 days from the date of this order to do so. See  
 27 Wakefield v. Thompson, 177 F.3d 1160, 1163 (9th Cir. 1999) (plaintiff should be  
 28 given opportunity to identify unknown defendants).

1 lack of exceptional circumstances. See Terrell v. Brewer, 935 F.2d 1015, 1017  
2 (9th Cir. 1991); Wilborn v. Escalderon, 789 F.2d 1328, 1331 (9th Cir. 1986).

### 3 CONCLUSION

4 For the foregoing reasons and for good cause shown,

5 1. The clerk shall issue summons and the United States Marshal shall  
6 serve, without prepayment of fees, copies of the complaint in this matter, all  
7 attachments thereto, and copies of this order on the following defendants at SVSP  
8 – Warden R. Grounds, Health Care Appeals Coordinator F. Mejia, doctors Eric  
9 Bridgnell, Fernando Tavera and Sullivan, and nurse M. Ku – and the following  
10 defendant at Valley Radiology Medical Associates, Inc. (2581 Samaritan Drive,  
11 Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95124) – Doctor E. Schneider. The clerk also shall  
12 serve a copy of this order on plaintiff.

13 2. In order to expedite the resolution of this case, the court orders as  
14 follows:

15 a. No later than 90 days from the date of this order, defendants  
16 shall serve and file a motion for summary judgment or other dispositive motion.  
17 A motion for summary judgment must be supported by adequate factual  
18 documentation and must conform in all respects to Federal Rule of Civil  
19 Procedure 56, and must include as exhibits all records and incident reports  
20 stemming from the events at issue. A motion for summary judgment also must  
21 be accompanied by a Rand notice so that plaintiff will have fair, timely and  
22 adequate notice of what is required of him in order to oppose the motion. Woods  
23 v. Carey, 684 F.3d 934, 935 (9th Cir. 2012) (notice requirement set out in Rand  
24 v. Rowland, 154 F.3d 952 (9th Cir. 1998), must be served concurrently with  
25 motion for summary judgment). A motion to dismiss for failure to exhaust  
26 available administrative remedies must be accompanied by a similar notice.

1 Stratton v. Buck, 697 F.3d 1004, 1008 (9th Cir. 2012); Woods, 684 F.3d at 935  
2 (notice requirement set out in Wyatt v. Terhune, 315 F.3d 1108 (9th Cir. 2003),  
3 must be served concurrently with motion to dismiss for failure to exhaust  
4 available administrative remedies).

5 If defendants are of the opinion that this case cannot be resolved by  
6 summary judgment or other dispositive motion, they shall so inform the court  
7 prior to the date their motion is due. All papers filed with the court shall be  
8 served promptly on plaintiff.

9 b. Plaintiff must serve and file an opposition or statement of  
10 non-opposition to the dispositive motion not more than 28 days after the motion  
11 is served and filed.

12 c. Plaintiff is advised that a motion for summary judgment  
13 under Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure will, if granted, end your  
14 case. Rule 56 tells you what you must do in order to oppose a motion for  
15 summary judgment. Generally, summary judgment must be granted when there  
16 is no genuine issue of material fact – that is, if there is no real dispute about any  
17 fact that would affect the result of your case, the party who asked for summary  
18 judgment is entitled to judgment as a matter of law, which will end your case.  
19 When a party you are suing makes a motion for summary judgment that is  
20 properly supported by declarations (or other sworn testimony), you cannot simply  
21 rely on what your complaint says. Instead, you must set out specific facts in  
22 declarations, depositions, answers to interrogatories, or authenticated documents,  
23 as provided in Rule 56(e), that contradicts the facts shown in the defendant's  
24 declarations and documents and show that there is a genuine issue of material  
25 fact for trial. If you do not submit your own evidence in opposition, summary  
26 judgment, if appropriate, may be entered against you. If summary judgment is  
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1 granted, your case will be dismissed and there will be no trial. Rand v. Rowland,  
2 154 F.3d 952, 962-63 (9th Cir. 1998) (en banc) (App. A).

3 Plaintiff also is advised that a motion to dismiss for failure to exhaust  
4 available administrative remedies under 42 U.S.C. § 1997e(a) will, if granted,  
5 end your case, albeit without prejudice. You must "develop a record" and present  
6 it in your opposition in order to dispute any "factual record" presented by the  
7 defendants in their motion to dismiss. Wyatt v. Terhune, 315 F.3d 1108, 1120  
8 n.14 (9th Cir. 2003). You have the right to present any evidence to show that you  
9 did exhaust your available administrative remedies before coming to federal  
10 court. Such evidence may include: (1) declarations, which are statements signed  
11 under penalty of perjury by you or others who have personal knowledge of  
12 relevant matters; (2) authenticated documents – documents accompanied by a  
13 declaration showing where they came from and why they are authentic, or other  
14 sworn papers such as answers to interrogatories or depositions; (3) statements in  
15 your complaint insofar as they were made under penalty of perjury and they show  
16 that you have personal knowledge of the matters state therein. In considering a  
17 motion to dismiss for failure to exhaust, the court can decide disputed issues of  
18 fact with regard to this portion of the case. Stratton, 697 F.3d at 1008-09.

19 (The Rand and Wyatt/Stratton notices above do not excuse defendants'  
20 obligation to serve said notices again concurrently with motions to dismiss for  
21 failure to exhaust available administrative remedies and motions for summary  
22 judgment. Woods, 684 F.3d at 935.)

23 d. Defendants must serve and file a reply to an opposition not  
24 more than 14 days after the opposition is served and filed.

25 e. The motion shall be deemed submitted as of the date the  
26 reply is due. No hearing will be held on the motion unless the court so orders at a  
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1 later date.


2 3. Discovery may be taken in accordance with the Federal Rules of  
3 Civil Procedure. No further court order under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
4 30(a)(2) or Local Rule 16 is required before the parties may conduct discovery.

5 4. All communications by plaintiff with the court must be served on  
6 defendants, or defendants' counsel once counsel has been designated, by mailing  
7 a true copy of the document to defendants or defendants' counsel.

8 5. It is plaintiff's responsibility to prosecute this case. Plaintiff must  
9 keep the court and all parties informed of any change of address and must comply  
10 with the court's orders in a timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in the  
11 dismissal of this action pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b).

12 SO ORDERED.

13 DATED: July 31, 2013

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15 CHARLES R. BREYER  
16 United States District Judge  
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